



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: LEVESQUE et al. Examiner: B. Sisson  
Serial No.: 10/647,566 Group Art Unit: 1645  
Filed: August 25, 2003 Docket: 9555.96USC1

Title: METHOD FOR THE IDENTIFICATION OF ESSENTIAL GENES AND  
THERAPEUTIC TARGETS

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: , Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 15, 2004.

By: 

Name: Karen R. Nejedly

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



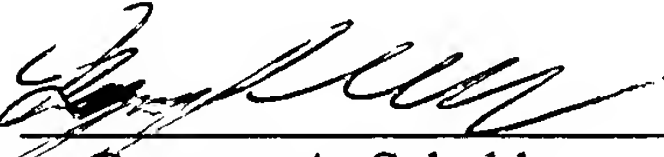
Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- ☒ Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- ☒ Preliminary Amendment
- ☒ Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
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612.332.5300

By:   
Name: Gregory A. Sebald  
Reg. No.: 33,280  
GAS/km



*JFW*

10/647,566

PATENT

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By: *[Signature]*  
Name: Karen R. Nejedly

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants wish to enter the foregoing Preliminary Amendment following the filing of a Continuing Application on August 25, 2003 and in response to the Official Action mailed on February 25, 2003.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 8 of this paper.